

### REMARKS

The Examiner's Office Action of July 13, 2004 has been received and its contents reviewed. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the consideration given to the above-identified application.

Claims 3-10, 16-33 and 35-42 are pending for consideration, of which claims 3, 4, 16, 18, and 35 are independent. By this Amendment, claims 3, 4, 16, 18 and 35 have been amended. In view of these actions and the following remarks, reconsideration of this application is now requested.

Referring now to the detailed Office Action, claims 3-10, 16-33 and 35-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors, at the time the invention was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The Examiner asserts that the limitation "wherein a first portion of said source wiring overlapped with said gate electrode has smaller line width than a second portion of said source wiring not overlapped with said gate electrode" recited in claims 3, 4, 16, 18 and 35 is not disclosed in the specification. In response, Applicants have amended the pending independent claims to recite "wherein a first portion of said source wiring overlapped with said gate wiring has smaller line width than a second portion of said source wiring not overlapped with said gate electrode".

Claims 3-10, 16-25 and 27-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Matsumoto (U.S. Patent No. 5,323,042 – hereafter Matsumoto) in view of Ikeda (JP 7-326767 – hereafter Ikeda), Otani (JP 10-56184 – hereafter Otani) and Okabe (JP 63-222443 – hereafter Okabe). Further, claims 4 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Yeo (U.S. Patent No. 6,140,162 – hereafter Yeo) in view of Ikeda, Otani and Okabe.

In response to the above-summarized §103(a) rejections, Applicants have further amended all independent claims to further recite "a pixel electrode over said source wiring" and "a portion of said second portion overlaps with said pixel electrode" as shown above. Support for the amendment can be found at least in Fig. 11.

The invention recited in Applicants' pending amended claims has a structure that has an advantage over cited prior art references in that a region in a pixel portion, where

disclination (i.e., alignment disorder of liquid crystal molecules due to surface roughness or a lateral electric field) is apt to occur, is covered with a light shield film so as not to serve as part of the pixel without increasing manufacturing steps.

Applicants respectfully assert that the cited prior art references fail to teach, disclose or suggest at least the features wherein a pixel electrode over said source wiring and a first portion of said source wiring overlapped with said gate wiring has smaller line width than a second portion of said source wiring not overlapped with said gate electrode, and a portion of said second portion overlaps with said pixel electrode as recited in the amended claims and their respective dependent claims. Hence, Applicants' claimed invention is distinguishable over the cited prior art references.

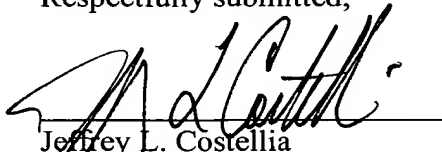
Notwithstanding the amendments and arguments set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that it is well settled that when combining the references in order to support a *prima facie* case of obviousness, the references must be considered in their entirety. It is further settled that the mere fact that the prior art may be modified to reflect features of the claimed invention does not make the modification and hence the claimed invention obvious unless the desirability of such modification is suggested by the prior art itself (MPEP §2141). Moreover, the claimed invention cannot be used as an instruction manual or "template" to piece together the teachings of the prior art so that the claimed invention is rendered obvious, *In Re Fritsch*, 23 USPQ2d 1780 (Fed. Cir. 1992). The Examiner has combined the cited prior art references without demonstrating where suggestion and motivation can be found. Hence, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established in the §103(a) rejections.

As Applicants deem that the above-submitted amendments and arguments clearly distinguish the presently claimed invention over the cited prior art references, and in the interest of keeping prosecution history compact, Applicants will not address each and every §103(a) rejections. Applicants reserve the right to do so in the future, as necessary.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all the pending rejections.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which could be eliminated through discussions with Applicants' representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey L. Costellia  
Registration No. 35,483

NIXON PEABODY LLP  
Suite 900, 401 9<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004-2128  
(202) 585-8000

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